

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Community Affairs Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

2 :03 P.M.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present: **Chair:** **CM Henderson**

Members: **CM Benson and CM Unseld**

Excused Absence: **Chairwoman Shanklin and CM Hawkins**

Also Present: **CW Green and CW Bryant Hamilton**

CM Henderson chaired the meeting due to the absence of Chairman Shanklin. He began the meeting by announcing the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was not established.

Pending Legislation

R-24-02-09 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (LG&E) DEVELOP OTHER MEANS AND METHODS OF COMMUNICATION WITH METRO LOUISVILLE RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS SUCH AS POWER OUTAGES.

Status: In Committee - Tabled
Committee: Community Affairs
Primary Sponsor: Dan Johnson

This item remained **Tabled**.

R-123-07-09 A RESOLUTION URGING LOISVILLE METRO CITIZENS TO NOW ALLOW THEIR PANTS TO SAG BELOW THEIR WAIST WHEN IN PUBLIC,

Status: Return to Committee
Committee: Community Affairs
Primary Sponsor: Judy Green

Motion to Approve made by Stuart Benson and seconded by George Unseld.

CW Green, Sponsor, MeShorn Daniels, Organizer of "Pull Up Your Pants Campaign", Reverend Peter Hayes, Midwest Regional Director spoke to the item. MeShorn Daniels gave handouts. The following was discussed.

- ❖ CW Green stated pants below the waist (sagging) is offensive
 - ✓ She was advised to do a resolution instead of an ordinance
 - ✓ The ordinance would not hold in Court
 - ✓ Green Team-100 Students that help clean-up areas – wanted to come and speak to the issue but school has started
 - ✓ Youth need to understand you don't have to follow the leader
 - ✓ The sagging of pants is with all children – even in Japan
 - ✓ The President has spoken against sagging pants
 - ✓ In Louisiana, Derrick Shepherd's present House Bill 1626 regarding Sagging pants
- ❖ Rev. Hayes stated the History of sagging pants tie in with the prison and gang structure

- ✓ Hip Hop wants to encourage young people to sag
 - ✓ Children with sagging pants have a problem getting a job
 - ✓ The issue has exploded
 - ✓ Girls showing their underwear
 - ✓ National Pull your Pants-up Campaign
 - ✓ He supports CM Green Resolution
- ❖ MeShorn Daniels stated he work with the Block Watch in his community (**Attachment**)
 - ✓ Sagging pants has been stopped in his community.
 - ✓ The song by Julian Priest, Rapper – PULL UP YOUR PANTS got him involved
 - ✓ People are not trying to dictate but sagging is infringing on other people
 - ✓ Need to stop the individual with sagging pants and create a conversation with them
 - ✓ Gail King, Oprah's friend called him on the phone regarding – Sagging Pants
 - ✓ Plantation Florida, School Teacher had Pull up your pants at her school
 - ✓ The public asked her to look into having a conference on what sagging is all about
 - ❖ Sagging is indecency, no respect for yourself or others

CM Unseld stated he thought the Resolution was in good faith but he felt an Ordinance would be better it had more bite to it. He suggested a community wide program, to talk with people in the school system and religious fields.

CW Hamilton stated many of the schools have dress codes and what the children do when they get out of school is a different matter. She stated she didn't want to see the young people have a record.

MeShorn Daniels stated he is against an Ordinance because he did not want to see prosecution against the young people.

CM Benson made a motion to **Table** the item CM Unseld seconded the motion.

CW Green stated she had no problem in Tabling the resolution. She stated she wanted the citizens to know they have been heard loud and clear. She stated maybe they could have a Public Forum.

Without objection this item was **Table**.

CM Henderson made a motion to Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Council Meeting.**

MEM